

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 20-25 have been added.

Priority

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's acknowledgment of the claim for priority. The certified copy of the priority document is submitted herewith.

Specification

Applicants have changed the title in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion.

35 U.S.C. §§112, 101, 102 and 103

The rejection of the claims under 35 USC §§ 101, 112, 102 and 103 has been rendered moot by the cancellation of claims 1-19 without prejudice or disclaimer. The cancellation of these claims should not be interpreted as an acquiescence to the rejections set forth in the Office Action.

New claims 20-25 comply with 35 USC §§ 101 and 112, and are patentable over the art of record. In particular, the

claims are patentable over Ota et al (JP-A-02-201542), Caron et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,586,328, Flood, U.S. Patent No. 5,287,548 and Youngdale ("Kernel Korner").

Referring to Fig. 9 and the description thereof on pages 16 and 17 of the specification, when a source program has been modified, analysis information obtained by analyzing the modified source program is compared with analysis information held in an object program corresponding to the pre-modified source program. If the analysis information differs from one another, then the modified source program is analyzed to generate a new object program to be replaced with the current object program as an updated object program thereof. In particular, in the present invention, a difference check is made between an old object program and a new object program by using either the version of the compiler or the optimization level of the compilation. As shown in Fig. 9, the header information 901 includes the version of the compiler and the optimization level information that is used.

In Ota et al, a last-compile source program is compared with the current source program at the compile time of the current source program. If the result of comparison shows a

change, the portion of the object program corresponding to a portion including the change of the last-compiled source program is modified to generate an object program corresponding to the current source program. Accordingly, Ota et al do not disclose or suggest the claimed invention.

Caron et al disclose a compiler and compiling method in which the source codes of a program are edited. When the source codes are edited, it is checked which module has been edited and then a module necessary for recompiling is compiled to generate intermediate codes. A module depending on the edited module is also compiled. Therefore, Caron et al did not disclose or suggest the invention as claimed by Applicants.

The Youngdale reference teaches a common object file format including a header called ELF magic, wherein ELF stands for Executable Linking Format. The ELF magic field identifies a file as an ELF file. The object file disclosed in Youngdale is comparable to object program file of the present invention. The header information disclosed by Youngdale includes type, machine and version, wherein the type indicates the type of the object file and the machine indicates a CPU for executing

the object file. It is noted, however, that the version included in the header is the version of the object file. Although Youngdale discloses header information for managing an object program, the reference fails to disclose or suggest the version of a compiler and the optimization level of the compilation as set forth by Applicants. Accordingly, the references does not disclose or suggest the claimed invention.

Flood discloses a programmable controller that employs a compiler for generating machine language object code from a source code control program. However, the reference does not disclose or suggest the invention as presently claimed by Applicants.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants contend that the above-identified application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and reexamination is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John R. Mattingly", with a stylized flourish at the end.

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